

NY/NoMa: A Community Characterized By Responsible, Sustainable Development

'Green' Development Benefits NY/NoMa Area on Multiple Levels

WASHINGTON, DC

NoMa, or North of Massachusetts Avenue area, is experiencing renewed development and significant growth opportunities. There is an estimated 23 million square feet of building capacity, on roughly 500 acres. NoMa's tremendous opportunity brings an equal and shared responsibility. The D.C. Office of Planning is working to ensure that all development in the NY/NoMa area to include green thinking and application.

Intense development, on this large area of underutilized land, over a relatively short time means the environmental impacts will be considerable. However, by developing green, the traditionally negative impacts on nature and health can be turned into positives, with cost advantages

Mayor Anthony Williams is working on the creation of a cabinet level Department of Environment and progressively pursuing sustainability throughout the District government. The Office of Planning wants to draw attention to and mitigate environmental impacts through sensible efforts. Market based, environmentally driven, strategic actions will promote health, security, revitalization, connection, and identity in the NY/NoMa community.



NoMa – Looking South

According to a recent PNC economic outlook survey, the rising price of energy is the new number one concern for small and medium sized businesses. A 2003 study in California showed that though initial costs of green projects were about 2 percent higher, that money was earned back through utility bill savings within six years. Another expert suggests that green buildings reduce operating costs by 20 percent.

Storm and waste water management are also primary NY/NoMa concerns. Increased development equals increased impervious surface areas

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Sustainable development is not only about saving money; it's about a healthy and responsible approach to construction that focuses on building materials, waste reduction, clean air, energy efficiency, employee health and satisfaction, the local economy, the natural and built environments, and most importantly the future. The NY/NoMa area is primed to serve as a model and call to action for responsible and sustainable development in the District.

Through the collaborative efforts of property owners, tenants, residents, District government, and others; the planning work currently underway in NY/NoMa will develop strategies for getting from where we are today to a healthier, greener tomorrow.

For more information on the Sustainability in NY/NoMa contact the DC Office of Planning at 202.442.7600.



The LEED Certified National Association of Realtors Building

Photo Courtesy of National Association of Realtors



Green Roof in Washington, DC

Photo Courtesy of Casey Trees



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